

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

December 19, 2011

The Honorable John Boehner
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

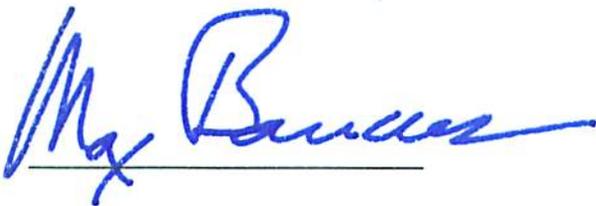
Dear Mr. Speaker:

On Saturday, December 17, the Senate passed the bipartisan Temporary Payroll Tax Cut Continuation Act of 2011, the Reid-McConnell substitute amendment to H.R. 3630. The bipartisan bill, which passed with 89 votes, will move the Keystone XL pipeline forward. The Keystone XL project is critical to the nation's energy security--it will reduce our dependence on oil from hostile regimes--and it will put thousands of Americans back to work.

This important bill will require the President to make a decision on the pipeline's future within 60 days. It will also protect private property rights and establish a procedure for re-routing the pipeline around sensitive land within the state of Nebraska. Delays or changes to the bill may jeopardize the important shared goal of moving the project forward.

In the interest of America's energy security and economic recovery, we urge the House of Representatives to take up this bill and pass it as soon as possible. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



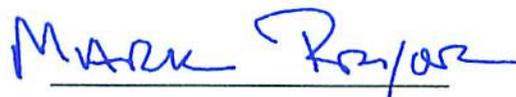
Max Baucus



Jon Tester



Mary M. Landrau



Mark Royce



Mark Begich
